

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 4-18 are pending. Claims 2, 4-7, 11-14, and 18 are rejected. Claims 8-10 and 15-17 are indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating these allowable claims.

Claims 4-18 are amended.

CLAIMS**Claim Objections**

Responsive to the objection to claims 4, 6-11, and 13-18, applicant has amended the preamble of each claim to recite "Disc speed control device," as suggested by the Examiner.

Responsive to the further objection to claims 7 and 14, applicant has deleted the phrase "which may occur" as suggested but without replacing the phrase with the term "when" because a "when" has already been recited in the clause. See claim 7, line 4.

In light of the above amendments, applicant submits that the objection has been overcome.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over
US Pat. No. 6,236,630 ("Kubo") in view of admitted prior art**

Responsive to the rejection of claims 2, 4-7, 11, 12-14, and 18 as being unpatentable over Kubo in view of admitted prior art of FIG. 1, applicant has amended independent claims 5 and 12, and submits that amended claims 5 and 12, and their respective dependent claims, are patentable for the reasons discussed below.

In response to applicant's arguments dated November 3, 2003, the Office Action in paragraph 4 points out that applicant did not recite a single speed processor in independent claims 5 and 12. Applicant has amended claims 5 and 12 to recite that the disc speed control device includes a *"single speed processor including a single speed processing means"* and a *"single speed servo means including a single speed comparator for receiving and comparing the rotation speed frequency signal and the determined rotation speed value."* For example, amended claim 5 reads as follows:

5. *Disc speed control device for use in a player or recorder of a disc shaped information carrier to read or record data along data tracks, the data being read or recorded using a pick-up, the device comprising:*
disc actuating means for rotating the disc in a first mode at a constant linear velocity or a second mode at a constant angular velocity;
the pick-up for reading the data from the rotating disc and producing an output signal representative of scanned data from the rotating disc;
frequency generating means for generating a rotation speed frequency representative of a rotation speed of the rotating disc;
signal processing means for processing the output signal of the pick-up and creating a data frequency signal, the data frequency signal being related to a frequency at which the data is scanned by the pick-up;
a single speed processor including a single speed processing means for receiving the data frequency signal and computing a determined rotation speed value for said first mode and said second mode wherein in the first mode the determined rotation speed value further depends on a location of the rotating disc at which the pick-up scans the data; and
single speed servo means including a single speed comparator for receiving and comparing the rotation speed frequency signal and the determined rotation speed value and for regulating the disc actuating means in response to the determined rotation speed value. (Emphasis added)

As stated in paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Office Action interprets the motor servo and driver circuit 8 disclosed in Kubo as a single speed processor for

controlling speed in either constant linear velocity or constant angular velocity. It is submitted that when comparing the servo and driver circuit shown in FIG. 3 of Kubo with FIGs. 1 and 2 of the present application, it is obvious that the motor servo and driver circuit 8 in Kubo corresponds to a combination of the speed servo means 3 and the speed processing means 8 shown in FIG. 2 of the present application. More specifically, the difference amplifier 83 together with the adder 85 as well as the further difference amplifier 88 shown in FIG. 3 of Kubo correspond to the comparator means 5 shown in FIG. 1 of the present application. Furthermore, the reference generator 82 together with the phase comparator 84 as well as the further reference generator 87 correspond to the speed processing means 8 of the present application. Thus, the motor servo and driver circuit 8 of Kubo includes two speed processing means (the reference generator 82, and the phase comparator 84 and the reference generator 87) and two speed comparators (the differential amplifier 83, and the adder 85 and the differential amplifier 88). Thus, even if the motor servo and driver circuit 8 in Kubo is interpreted as a single speed processor combined with a single speed servo means, Kubo still does not yield amended claim 5 because it does not disclose or suggest a disc speed control device that includes a single speed processor including a single speed processing means for computing a determined rotation speed value for a first mode and a second mode of operation, and a single speed servo means includes a single speed comparator for regulating the disc actuating means, as recited in amended claim 5.

The solution according to the present invention has the advantage that only a single speed processor including a single speed processing means and a single speed servo including a single speed comparator have to be provided, which essentially halves the amount of electronics needed for speed control in comparison with the arrangement disclosed in Kubo.

In light of the fact that Kubo does not disclose or suggest the use of a single speed processor including a single speed processing means and a single speed servo means including a single speed comparator, as recited in amended claim 5, applicant submits that amended claims 5, and dependent claims 2, 6, 7, and 11, are patentable over Kubo.

Since amended claim 12 recites similar features as amended claim 5, applicant submits that the arguments made above with respect to claim 5 are also applicable to amended claim 12, and that amended claim 12, and dependent claims 4, 13, 14, and 18, are patentable over Kubo.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, the Applicant believes that he has overcome all of the Examiner's basis for rejection, and that this application therefore stands in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Applicant requests that he contact his undersigned attorney in order to resolve any outstanding issues without the necessity of issuing another Office Action.

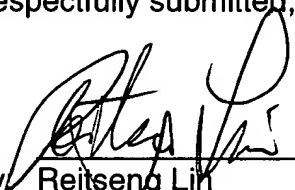
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FEE

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to
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Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop AF], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

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Date

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